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Federal Assistance to Sheep Breeding

The Ram Club Policy



DOMINION OF CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PAMPHLET No. 140—NEW SERIES

THE LIVE STOCK BRANCH, SHEEP DIVISION

GEO. B. ROTHWELL, Live Stock Commissioner

A. A. MacMILLAN, Chief of Sheep and Swine Division

Published by direction of Major The Honourable Robert Weir, Minister of Agriculture,
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ANNOUNCEMENT

The value of the pure-bred sire has been demonstrated many times over. Our finest grades of wool and best type market lambs are the result of the consistent use of pure-bred sires. It has been found that there are still some farmers in the various Provinces of the Dominion who have never used a pure-bred ram. There are also others who have intermittently used pure-bred rams. In order that these men may be encouraged to improve their breeding stock, the Ram Club Policy herewith defined is being put into operation.

This Policy recognizes the importance of developing community sheep breeding centres with a recognized breed of sheep for each respective district. It also aims to initiate all sheep raisers into practices of docking, castrating and dipping so that the lambs, as sent to market, will be of the very best quality for the breeding which they represent. It also aims to encourage the proper shearing of sheep in a cleanly manner and the proper tying and rolling of fleeces so that they may be offered for grading and sale in the most attractive form.

The Policy, as drafted, places a premium on quality as designated under the Ram Grading Policy, thus pure-bred breeders who have consistently purchased flock sires of outstanding merit will benefit through increased sales of XXX rams.

BASIS OF QUALIFICATION

Any club district or specified community where there are ten or more sheep raisers, each keeping ten or more breeding ewes, all of whom wish to purchase a pure-bred ram may make application under the Ram Club Policy.. Two farmers, each of whom keeps less than ten ewes, may combine their flocks for breeding purposes provided one pure-bred ram is purchased jointly for use on both flocks. In such cases, the two flocks will be considered as one in making up the unit of ten, but each of the two farmers shall comply with all the regulations.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF RAM CLUBS

1. All members of a Club shall agree to purchase rams of the same breed.
2. All members shall agree to use rams purchased under this Policy on their own flocks for at least two breeding seasons after purchase.

3. Club members shall agree to dip their flocks at least once a year for external parasites and if considered necessary they also shall agree to treat the flock in a manner prescribed for internal parasites.

4. Club members shall agree to castrate all grade ram lambs and dock all lambs before they reach the age of one month and preferably when ten days to two weeks of age.

5. Members purchasing rams under this Policy shall deposit with the Club Secretary, when affixing their names to the application form, a sum as specified below depending on the age and grade of ram ordered:—

XXX Ram Lamb.....	\$ 10 00
XXX Shearling Ram.....	20 00
XX Ram Lamb.....	5 00
XX Shearling Ram.....	15 00

6. Applications from Ram Clubs must be in the hands of an official of the Dominion Live Stock Branch not later than October 1st of any year.

7. Applications from Ram Clubs together with deposits for rams should be forwarded by the Club Secretary to the official of the Dominion Live Stock Branch, who is responsible for administering the Policy in the Province. The following is a list of such officers together with their addresses:—

ARTHUR MORTON, Sr. Sheep and Swine Promoter, 322 Winch Bldg., Vancouver, B.C.

S. G. FREEBORN, District Swine Grader, Alberta Stock Yards, Calgary, Alta.

L. HANCOCK, District Swine Grader, 805 Commercial Bldg., Winnipeg, Man.

JAS. A. TELFER, Sr. Sheep and Swine Promoter, Paris, Ont.

J. G. LEFEBVRE, Sr. Sheep and Swine Promoter, Box 174, Kingston, Ont.

J. P. RODRIGUE, Sr. Sheep and Swine Promoter, 2 Youville Square, Montreal, P.Q.

JAS. W. GRAHAM, District Swine Grader, 347 St. George St., Moncton, N.B.

H. K. McCHARLES, Sr. Sheep and Swine Promoter, Truro, N.S.

F. F. BAIRD, Sr. Sheep and Swine Promoter, Box 200, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

8. No sheep raiser will be allowed to order more than four rams in any one year and if ordering more than one ram each sheep raiser must own at least twenty-five ewes for each ram ordered. A sheep raiser will only be considered as one in making up a unit of ten for the Club no matter how many rams he may order.

9. The Live Stock Commissioner may give special consideration to a Ram Club, particularly in newly settled districts when there is less than ten members.

10. The Federal Department reserves the right to limit the number of ram clubs that may be organized in any Province in any one year.

11. While every effort will be made by the Department to purchase only rams that will prove satisfactory at service, the Department assumes no responsibility for rams purchased which prove to be unsatisfactory breeders.

PURCHASE AND SELECTION OF RAMS FOR RAM CLUBS

Upon receipt of an application under this Policy from a Ram Club with a certified cheque attached covering payments on rams as ordered by members and when same is approved the Federal Government will immediately proceed to fill the orders for graded rams by selecting and purchasing suitable rams offered for sale by breeders of pure-bred sheep.


The Department recognizes that the cost of graded ram lambs and shearling or older rams will vary from year to year. It is expected that XXX ram lambs will cost in the vicinity of \$20.00 each and XX ram lambs in the vicinity of \$15.00 each. Older rams will cost correspondingly more money. Members of Clubs will thus appreciate that the Department is contributing considerable towards the initial cost of rams ordered through the Club.

FREE FREIGHT TO DESTINATION

Club orders for rams when completed will be shipped free of freight charges to the nearest local railway station for the club.

EXPENSES FOR PURCHASING AGENTS

When a group of clubs are organized in a district far removed from pure-bred breeding centres or when stock for ram clubs has to be purchased in another Province, the Live Stock Commissioner may when such shipments comprise fifty or more rams authorize the appointment of a local purchasing delegate who shall act under the direction of the Departmental official in the Province in which purchases are made and who shall accompany the shipment of rams to point of destination, being responsible for the proper distribution of rams so purchased to club members. The expenses of purchasing delegates so authorized will be paid by the Department.



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APPLICATION FORM.

We, the undersigned members of the _____ Ram Club, hereby jointly and severally agree to accept graded, purebred rams as purchased by the Dominion Live Stock Branch for our order as set forth below, these rams to be of the _____ Breed. We also jointly and severally agree to conform to the Rules and Regulations set forth under the Ram Club Policy.

Rams should be consigned to _____ Railway Station _____
 Notification of shipment should be made to _____
 Post Office Address _____ County _____ Prov. _____

Secretary-----

Date.....

Address.....

NOTE--Allocation of rams to members will be arranged by the Secretary. Drawing by lot according to grade is suggested.

